

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CCO-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 AID-20 PC-10 OMB-01

CIEP-03 OPR-02 SY-04 M-02 A-01 OC-06 SCS-03 SCA-01

IO-14 USSS-00 DRC-01 /147 W  
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O R 121732Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1009

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ADDIS ABABA 10912

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, ET, US

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH GENERAL AMAN

1. UPON SHORT NOTICE FROM CHIEF OF PROTOCOL I WAS SUMMONED TO MEET WITH GENERAL AMAN AT 1730 SEPTEMBER 12 IN OFFICE OF ARMED FORCES CHIEF OF STAFF. WHEN I WAS USHERED INTO HIS OFFICE I DISCOVERED SEVERAL TELEVISION CAMERAMEN WERE PRESENT. FOREIGN MINISTER ZEWDE AND MINISTER OF INTERIOR WERE ALSO PRESENT. CAMERMEN FILMED US BRIEFLY AND DEPARTED.

2. GENERAL AMAN THEN SAID HE WISHED TO ASSURE ME THAT THE SAFETY OF FOREIGNERS WOULD BE PROTECTED IN THE COMING DAYS. HE ALSO WISHED TO MAKE CLEAR THAT THE ARMED FORCES DESIRE TO MAINTAIN A STRONG AND FRIENDLY RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES. I THANKED HIM FOR THESE ASSURANCES AND SAID THAT THE UNITED STATES AND ITS GOVERNMENT FULLY RECIPROCATED THESE SENTIMENTS, STRONGLY DESIRING TO MAINTAIN CLOSE AND COOPERATIVE TIES "WITH ETHIOPIA AND ITS GOVERNMENT."

3. GENERAL AMAN SAID THAT THE EMPEROR IS CURRENTLY "IN GOOD HEALTH."

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I SAID I WAS VERY GLAD TO HEAR THIS AND THAT IT WOULD ALSO BE A

MATTER OF GREAT INTEREST TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, WHO HAVE A HIGH REGARD FOR THE EMPEROR. MANY OF THEM STILL REMEMBER WITH GREAT FEELING HIS HISTORIC SPEECH TO THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS. I SAID I WAS SURE THAT THERE IS NOW GREAT INTEREST AND CONCERN AMONG THE AMERICAN PEOPLE REGARDING THE SAFETY AND WELL BEING OF THE EMPEROR.

4. WE HAD A VERY BRIEF DISCUSSION OF OTHER SUBJECTS. THE ETHIOPIANS EXPRESSED PLEASURE REGARDING THE RECENT RELEASE OF THE TENNECO CAPTIVES. GENERAL AMAN INDICATED THAT HE DID NOT EXPECT THE PRESENT 1930 CURFEW TO LAST VERY LONG. FONMIN ZEWDE SAID THAT HE EXPECTED TO ARRIVE IN NEW YORK ON SEPTEMBER 17 FOR THE UNGA OPENING AND WOULD SEE ME BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE.

5. THE FILM OF THIS MEETING HAS JUST BEEN SHOWN ON TELEVISION, FOLLOWED BY SIMILAR SCENES WITH THE SOVIET AND CHINESE CHARGES, THE EGYPTIAN, WEST GERMAN, AND BRITISH AMBASSADORS AND THE FRENCH CHARGE'

6. THERE HAS JUST BEEN A RADIO ANNOUNCEMENT IN AMHARIC THAT, GENERAL AMAN IS NOW PRIME MINISTER AS WELL AS MINISTER OF DEFENSE. MICHAEL IMRU HAS BECOME MINISTER OF INFORMATION. ZEWDE IS STILL FOREIGN MINISTER BUT NO LONGER DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER.  
WYMAN

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## Message Attributes

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